



# United States Navy Biography

## **Chief Mass Communication Specialist (SW/NAC/AW) Daniel R. Mennuto** **United States Navy**

MCC Mennuto grew up in Hopatcong, New Jersey until 1993 when he and his family moved to Arizona. He graduated from Gateway Community High School in Tempe, Ariz. in August 1997. In February 1998, he reported for basic training at Recruit Training Command Great Lakes, Illinois.

Upon graduation in April 1998, he attended Photographer's Mate "A" School at Defense Information School on Ft. George G. Meade Army Base, Maryland. He reported aboard the USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19) in Yokosuka, Japan in September of 1998. During his three-year tour aboard USS Blue Ridge, he completed three Western Pacific (WESTPAC) deployments during which time he earned his Surface Warfare designator.

Chief Mennuto attended Naval Aircrew Candidate School in Pensacola, Fla. in September 2001, before transferring to Patrol Squadron Forty-Seven based out of Kaneohe, Hawaii. There he earned his Aviation Warfare Specialist designator and Naval Aircrewman designator (NEC 8288). He participated in two six-month deployments playing an active role in the intelligence department by disseminating imagery to support ground forces during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. On August 7, 2004, he welcomed his son into the world, Joichiro Rocco Mennuto.

In December of 2004 he returned to the Defense Information School to attend the Digital Multimedia Course and earned a second NEC 8193. Upon completion in March 2005, he reported to Fleet Imaging Command Pacific Det. San Diego, which later became the Naval Public Affairs Center West. For his efforts as the Operations Leading Petty Officer, he earned the honor of being selected as the Junior Sailor of the Year for 2005.

In October 2007, MCC Mennuto transferred to Fleet Combat Camera Group West also homeported in San Diego. There he completed a deployment with Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and a deployment to Iraq with Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force Arabian Peninsula in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While with Combat Camera, he met his wife Mary.

Chief Mennuto attended the Navy's prestigious Advanced Photojournalism Course (NEC 8148) at Syracuse University, New York in 2009. After graduating in 2010, Chief Mennuto married his wife Mary in Charleston, South Carolina while enroute to his assignment as the Lead Petty Officer of American Forces Network Naples, Italy. While there, he received the 2012 Russell Egnor Excellence Award for Mass Communication Specialist (shore) of the Year. After a successful three-year-tour in Naples, he returned to the Defense Information School once again to attend the Broadcast Managers Course (NEC 3251). He is now the Operations Manager of American Forces Network Bahrain.

MCC Mennuto's awards include two Joint Service Commendation Medals, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Navy Commendation Medal, two Navy Achievement Medals, five Navy Good Conduct Medals, the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal and numerous other unit and campaign awards.